

1 **AN ACT** *to renumber* 38.01 (1); *to amend* 39.435 (1) and 39.435 (3); and *to create*
 2 38.01 (1), 38.04 (8m), 38.04 (21) (dm) and 38.04 (32) of the statutes; **relating to:** the
 3 Wisconsin technical college system and higher education financial aid eligibility and
 4 requiring the exercise of rule-making authority.

The people of the state of Wisconsin, represented in senate and assembly, do enact as follows:

JOINT LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL PREFATORY NOTE: This draft was prepared for the joint legislative council’s special committee on strengthening Wisconsin families.

Under current law, s. 38.04 (21), stats., requires the Wisconsin technical college system (WTCS) board to submit an annual report to the department of administration, department of public instruction, department of workforce development, and to the legislature.

This draft amends s. 38.04 (21), stats., to include data related to adult basic education (ABE) among the information the board is required to include in the annual report.

The draft also requires the board to develop a plan to increase the number of pupils who enroll in diploma or degree programs, who previously completed an ABE program at a technical college. The plan requires the board to set 5-year goals with annual benchmarks for the number of students who transition from an ABE program to a technical college diploma or degree program.

Under current law, a technical college may require the prerequisite of a high school diploma, general educational development credential (GED), or high school equivalency diploma (HSED) to enroll in technical college diploma and degree programs.

This draft creates s. 38.04 (32), stats., relating to a concurrent enrollment admissions program. Under the proposed program, the board shall allow pupils to concurrently enroll in a diploma or degree program and an ABE program. The proposed program also allows the board to require a high school diploma, GED, or HSED for enrollment in certain diploma and degree programs.

Under current law, s. 39.435 (1), stats., relating to Wisconsin higher education grants (WHEG) requires half-time enrollment in order for a pupil to be eligible for the higher education grant program.

This draft amends s. 39.435 (1), stats., to remove the requirement of half-time enrollment for higher education grant eligibility under s. 39.435 (1), stats., for students enrolled in the Wisconsin technical college system. The draft amends s. 39.435 (3), stats., relating to the amount of grants under s. 39.435 (1), stats., to reflect the modification of the half-time enrollment requirement under s. 39.435 (1), stats.

The draft also amends s. 39.435 (3), stats., to remove eligibility for grants under s. 39.435 (1), stats., for students who have earned more than 135 credits.

1 **SECTION 1.** 38.01 (1) of the statutes is renumbered 38.01 (1m).

2 **SECTION 2.** 38.01 (1) of the statutes is created to read:

3 38.01 (1) “Adult basic education” includes the following programs: family literacy;
4 general educational development credential and high school equivalency diploma; English as
5 a second language; and workplace education.

6 **SECTION 3.** 38.04 (8m) of the statutes is created to read:

7 38.04 (8m) ADULT BASIC EDUCATION TRANSITION PLAN. Annually by January 1, the board
8 shall develop a plan to increase the number of pupils who enroll in diploma or degree
9 programs, who previously completed an adult basic education program at a technical college.
10 The plan shall specify each district board’s goals and objectives for adult basic education
11 graduate transition. The plan shall outline activities and programs that enhance adult basic
12 education graduate transition and shall review the programs made by the board and by the
13 district boards in the previous years. The plan shall outline efforts to publicize the activities
14 and programs that enhance adult basic education graduate transition. The board shall, by rule,
15 set 5-year goals with annual benchmarks for the number of pupils who enroll in diploma or

1 degree programs, who previously completed an adult basic education program at a technical
2 college.

3 **SECTION 4.** 38.04 (21) (dm) of the statutes is created to read:

4 38.04 **(21)** (dm) Data related to adult basic education, including:

5 1. The number of pupils who were enrolled in each adult basic education program at
6 a technical college in the previous year.

7 2. The number of pupils who completed each adult basic education program at a
8 technical college in the previous year.

9 3. The number of pupils who earned a general educational development credential or
10 high school equivalency diploma in the previous year, who previously completed an adult
11 basic education program at a technical college.

12 4. The number of pupils who were enrolled in a diploma or degree granting program
13 at a technical college in the previous year, who previously completed an adult basic education
14 program at a technical college.

15 5. The type of diploma or degree program of each pupil under subd. 4.

16 6. The number of pupils who complete a diploma or degree granting program at a
17 technical college in the previous year, who completed an adult basic education program at a
18 technical college within the previous 5 years.

19 7. The type of adult basic education program of each pupil under subds. 3., 4., and 6.

20 **SECTION 5.** 38.04 (32) of the statutes is created to read:

21 38.04 **(32)** CONCURRENT ENROLLMENT. The board shall operate a concurrent enrollment
22 admissions program. Under the concurrent enrollment program, the board shall, by rule, do
23 all of the following:

1 a. Develop criteria to determine whether training and coursework requirements for each
2 diploma and degree program are contingent on obtaining a high school diploma, general
3 educational development credential, or high school equivalency diploma.

4 b. Identify and approve diploma and degree programs with training and coursework
5 requirements that are contingent on first obtaining a high school diploma, general educational
6 development credential, or high school equivalency diploma.

7 c. Publish a list of diploma and degree programs that satisfy sub. (b).

8 d. Except for programs listed under sub. (c), allow pupils to concurrently enroll in a
9 diploma or degree program and an adult basic education program.

10 e. Identify and approve adult basic education courses that also satisfy curricula
11 requirements for diploma or degree programs.

12 **SECTION 6.** 39.435 (1) of the statutes is amended to read:

13 39.435 (1) There is established, to be administered by the board, a higher education
14 grant program for postsecondary resident students enrolled at least half-time and registered
15 as freshmen, sophomores, juniors or seniors in accredited institutions of higher education or
16 in tribally controlled colleges in this state. The requirement of at least half-time enrollment
17 shall not apply to students enrolled in the Wisconsin technical college system. Except as
18 authorized under sub. (5), such grants shall be made only to students enrolled in nonprofit
19 public institutions or tribally controlled colleges in this state.

20 **SECTION 7.** 39.435 (3) of the statutes is amended to read:

21 39.435 (3) Grants under sub. (1) shall not be less than \$250 or the actual cost of tuition,
22 whichever is lower, during any one academic year, unless the joint committee on finance
23 approves an adjustment in the amount of the minimum grant. Grants under sub. (1) shall not
24 exceed \$3,000 during any one academic year. The board shall not award a grant under sub.

1 (1) to a student who has earned more than 135 credits. The board shall, by rule, establish a
2 reporting system to periodically provide student economic data and shall promulgate other
3 rules the board deems necessary to assure uniform administration of the program.

4 **SECTION 8. Effective date.**

5 (1) This act takes effect on the first day of the 13th month after publication.

6 **SECTION 9. Nonstatutory provisions.** (1) The board shall include the initial exclusion
7 criteria and list for concurrent enrollment under s. 38.04 (32) in the annual report under s.
8 38.04 (21) completed for the year that includes the effective date of this act.

9 (2) The board shall submit in proposed form the rules required under section 38.04 (8m)
10 and (32) of the statutes, as created by this act, to the legislative council staff under section
11 227.15 (1) of the statutes no later than the first day of the 7th month beginning after
12 publication.

13 **(END)**